

# Appendix IV: Revegetation

## REVEGETATING DISTURBED AREAS

**Definition:** The establishment of vegetation on disturbed soil areas not expected to naturally revegetate in time to prevent erosion.

**Purpose:** To stabilize the soil and minimize the chance of erosion.

**Conditions where practice applies:** On areas where activities expose mineral soil and where natural vegetation will not suffice; thus operations may accelerate erosion and contribute sediment to drainages. Other areas to consider are those with highly erodible soils or those severely eroded or gullied.

### RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS

#### *Site & Seedbed Preparations*

- All disturbed areas with a grade of 5 percent or greater and/or which are subject to excessive erosion should be seeded within the first 15 days of next seeding season after construction as weather permits. These steep grades and any other area with a high erosion potential (such as sets, skid trails, and haul roads) should be identified as soon as the operation is completed. See the tables on the following pages.
- Water control measures and / or shaping of the land should be completed as the operation is finished to guarantee the stability of the site until a ground cover becomes established.

#### *Seeding*

- Selected seed mixture may be broadcast or drilled. Seeding is usually more successful in the spring and fall. Broadcast seed can be covered by dragging a chain, brush, disk, or harrow or firming with a roller or cultipacker, or by drilling to ensure seed contact with the soil (0.5–1 inch deep). Permanent grasses may be seeded or sprigged into dead cover provided by temporary cover plants. A long-term perennial, fine-rooted seed mixture should be used for most effective erosion control.
- The objective of seeding is to quickly establish a ground cover that will hold the soil together under most conditions. Seed selection should consider the season, the soil type, the availability of sunlight to the area to be seeded, and the cost of the seed. To get the desired results, a combination of seeds may be required.
- Adapted plants — See the table, on the following pages, *Seed for Revegetation in Louisiana*, for a list of plants and their adaptation by soil types.
- Planting rates and dates — See the table on the following pages, *Revegetation – Planting Information*.
- When temporary cover plants such as annual, cool season crops are used, a follow-up to determine the need for permanent vegetation is needed.

- Legumes should always be used in mixes with grasses.
- Sprigging Methods — Sprigged plants such as Bermuda grass can be planted by sprigging either by hand or machine, or broadcasting the sprigs and then disking and firming with a roller.
- Fertilizing — Apply 600 to 650 lbs. of 13-13-13 (or its equivalent) per acre ( these

rates are double normal rates) and either mix into the top 2–3” during seedbed preparation or at the time of planting. Care should be taken to insure that the fertilizer does not enter a stream. To avoid stream contamination, it is recommended that fertilizer not be applied within the streamside management zone. On small areas, fertilizer may be broadcast manually with a spreader prior to or at the time of seeding.

Seed for Revegetation in Louisiana				
Revegetation Type	Species	Sands	Loams	Clays
Annual Grass / crops .....	Millet			
	Brown top	X	X	X
	Foxtail	X	X	X
	Pearl	X	X	X
	Ryegrass		X	X
	Oats	X <sup>1</sup>	X	X
	Elbon rye	X	X	X
	Wheat	X <sup>1</sup>	X	X
Perennial Grasses .....	Bahia <sup>2</sup>		X	X
	Bermuda			
	Alecia	X	X	X
	Coastal	X	X	X
	Selection 3	X	X	X
	Sheffield	X	X	X
	Common <sup>2</sup>		X	X
	NK-37		X	X
	Tall fescue <sup>2</sup>		X	X
	Lovegrass <sup>2</sup>			
	Weeping	X	X	X
	Wilman	X	X	X
Alamo switchgrass		X	X	
Legumes .....	Singletary peas		X	X
	Hairy vetch	X	X	X
	Arrowleaf clover		X	X
	Subterranean clover	X	X	X

<sup>1</sup> Not adapted to very deep sands. <sup>2</sup> Most shade tolerant. <sup>3</sup> Used as a temporary cover, in mixes, or for wildlife.

Revegetation — Planting Information

Revegetation Type and Season	Species Name	Season of Growth	Planting Dates	Planting Rate / Acre
<b>Annual</b>				
Grass / crops .....	Millet			
	Brown top	warm	4/15-8/1	40 lbs.
	Foxtail	warm	4/15-8/1	30 lbs.
	Pearl	warm	5/15-8/1	40 lbs.
	Ryegrass	cool	9/1-11/30	24 lbs.
	Oats	cool	9/1-11/30	128 lbs.
	Elbon rye	cool	9/1-11/30	112 lbs.
	Wheat	cool	9/1-11/30	120 lbs.
<b>Perennial</b>				
Grasses .....	Bahia <sup>2</sup>	warm	year-round <sup>2</sup>	30 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Bermuda			
	Alecia	warm	1/15-6/1	48 bu.
	Coastal	warm	1/15-6/1	48 bu.
	Selection 3	warm	1/15-6/1	48 bu.
	Sheffield	warm	1/15-6/1	48 bu.
	Common <sup>2</sup>	warm	3/15-5/15	4 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	NK-37	warm	3/15-5/15	4 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Tall fescue <sup>2</sup>	cool	9/15-11/15	20 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Lovegrass <sup>2</sup>			
	Weeping	warm	3/15-5/1	4 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Wilman	warm	3/15-5/1	4 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Alamo switchgrass	warm	3/15-5/1	7 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Legumes<sup>3</sup></b> .....	Singleary peas	cool	9/15-11/30	70 lbs. <sup>1</sup>
	Hairy vetch	cool	9/15-11/30	40 lbs.
	Arrowleaf clover	cool	9/15-11/30	20 lbs.
	Subterranean clover	cool	9/15-11/30	20 lbs.

<sup>1</sup> Pure live seed (% germination x % purity = pure live seed. <sup>2</sup> Bahia can be planted year-round if planted with an appropriate cover.  
<sup>3</sup> Inoculate legumes before planting. Note: Sowing rates are double normal rates to ensure maximum cover.

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